THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) and (b) The Tourism Industry is primarily in the Private Sector. The industry mainly comprises of four segments i.e., (1) Hotels, (2) Tour Operators, (3) Travel Agents and (4) Tourist Transport Operators. The Department of Tourism, Government of India, acts as a facilitator to the private sector and assists States Governments in the development of tourism infrastructure in the country.

Proposal for setting up an airport in Hassan District, Karnataka

1607. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up an airport in Hassan district in Karnataka; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the work so far done in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) and (b) There is a fair weather airstrip at Hassan. A team of Officers from Airports Authority of India and State Government have recently inspected the site for development of an airport suitable for B-737 type of aircraft.

Directive of SEBI regarding number of Shareholders for Fresh Capital Issue

1608. PROF. NAUNIHAL SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the new directive from the Securities and Exchange Board of India specifying the norms for the minimum number of shareholders in case of fresh capital issue has landed companies in a piquant situation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the new SEBI directive will affect not only companies that have tapped the primary market recently but also those already listed, though having smaller number of shareholders than statutorily required for continued listing on the prime houses; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) SEBI has advised the Stock Exchanges to amend their listing agreements stipulating a minimum of 5 public shareholders for every Rs. 1 lakh of net capital offer to the public and a minimum of 10 public shareholders for every Rs. 1 lakh of equity offered to the public in case of offer for sale. The present guideline is a relaxation of the previous guideline dated Nov., 1982 under which the requirement was a minimum of 10 public shareholders for every Rs. 1 lakh of fresh issue of Capital.

(c) and (d) The aforesaid directive of SEBI has been prescribed as an initial and continuing listing requirement. Existing listed companies which do not satisfy this requirement have been given a time-frame of six months to comply with this stipulation.

विदेशी ऋण पर ब्याज और मूलधन के रूप में अदा की गई राशि

1609. **श्री नागमणि:**
श्री कनकसिंह मोहनसिंह मेंगरोला:

क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि वित्तीय वर्ष 1996-97 के दौरान देश को विदेशी ऋण पर ब्याज और मूलधन के रूप में कुल कितनी राशि अदा करनी है?

वित्त मंत्री तथा कम्पनी कार्य मंत्री (श्री पी० चिदम्बरम): 1996-97 में विदेशी ऋण पर कुल ऋण शोधन अदायगियों (मूलधन और ब्याज) का अनन्तिम अनुमान 14.5 बिलियन अमरीकी डालर है।